

Message Text

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52

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 RSR-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14

USIA-12 NEA-10 GAC-01 TRSE-00 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 ACDA-19

IO-12 AEC-11 OMB-01 EB-11 CU-04 OIC-04 /169 W

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R 021753 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7104

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 1811

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PARM, EEC

SUBJECT: EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS' MEETING, MARCH 30

1. SUMMARY: POLITICAL DIRECTORS HEARD ITALIAN PAPER ON MBFR AND CONSEQUENCES FOR WESTERN EUROPE, DISCUSSED CSCE AND SECOND DAVIGNON REPORT IN GENERAL TERMS, AND SCHEDULED SPECIAL HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON CSCE FOR APRIL 24. AGENDA ITEMS ON US/ EC RELATIONS HELD OVER FOR LACK OF TIME. END SUMMARY.

2. IN ABSENCE OF DAVIGNON ON ONE WEEK' S MEDICAL LEAVE TO BE FOLLOWED BY TWO WEEKS' VACATION), HE RECEIVED FOLLOWING REPORT ON MARCH 30 POLITICAL DIRECTORS' MEETING FROM RAEYMAECKERS,
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CHIEF OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION AFFAIRS, IN FONOFF.

3. MBFR: ITALIANS, WHO HAD REQUESTED THIS AGENDA ITEM, PRESENTED A PAPER ON THE POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES FOR WESTERN EUROPE (THE NINE IN PARTICULAR) OF FORCE REDUCTIONS AND OTHER MEASURES THAT MIGHT EMERGE FROM MBFR NEGOTIATIONS. PAPER WAS DESIGNED TO STIMULATE THINKING ON THE PROBLEM RATHER THAN TO STATE ANY CONCLUSIONS, AND THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION OF THE SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES INVOLVED IN MBFR. RAEYMAECKERS SEES NO REASON TO FEAR THAT THE NINE WILL BECOME A CONSULTATIVE FORUM ON MBFR TO RIVAL (OR EVEN COMPLEMENT) NATO, BUT HE DID NOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT SOME ASPECT OF MBFR WILL BE ON THE EC MINISTERIAL AGENDA FOR JUNE 4-5. RAEYMAECKERS OFFERED HIS OPINION THAT IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE TO TAKE FRENCH WILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS MBFR WITHIN THE NINE AS A SIGN OF POSSIBLE FRENCH RECONSIDERATION OF PARTICIPATION IN MBFR.

3. CSCE: POLITICAL DIRECTORS DISCUSSED CSCE IN GENERAL TERMS AND REAFFIRMED THEIR SATISFACTION WITH THE WAY TALKS WERE PROGRESSING IN HELSINKI. RAEYMAECKERS REPORTED NO DISCUSSION ON THE MILITARY SECURITY CONTENT OF CSCE (THE ONE MAJOR AREA WHERE UNIFORMITY OF VIEWS AMONG THE NINE HAS NOT BEEN ACHIEVED).

4. SECOND DAVIGNON REPORT: NINE REPORTEDLY SPENT MOST OF THEIR TIME DISCUSSING THE SECOND DAVIGNON REPORT DUE FOR SUBMISSION TO MINISTERS IN JUNE, BUT THE DISCUSSION PRODUCED MORE QUESTIONS THAN ANSWERS. THE DIRECTORS WANT THE REPORT TO GO BEYOND AN AFFIRMATION THAT THE NINE ARE SIMPLY DOING BETTER NOW IN THE AREAS OF POLITICAL CONSULTATION IN WHICH THEY HAVE BEEN INVOLVED ALL ALONG. ON THE OTHER HAND, THEY HAD GREAT DIFFICULTY IN IDENTIFYING EXACTLY WHERE NEW GROUND MIGHT BE BROKEN. BRIEF MENTION OF A SECRETARIAT INCLUDED A TENTATIVE PROPOSAL THAT SUCH A BODY NOT BE GIVEN A PERMANENT HOME BUT RATHER OPERATE IN WHICHEVER CAPITAL THE NINE WAS DOING ITS BUSINESS AT THE TIME.

5. US/ EC RELATIONS: ACCORDING TO RAEYMAECKERS, THE EXTENDED DISCUSSION ON THE REPORT, PLUS THE DIFFICULTY OF ACCOMMODATING THE VIEWS OF NINE POLITICAL DIRECTORS ON SEVERAL SUBJECTS IN A SINGLE DAY, PREVENTED THE NINE FROM DISCUSSING THIS AGENDA ITEM. NEVERTHELESS, IT REMAINS ON NEXT JUNE' S MINISTERIAL

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AGENDA. (WITH REFERENCE TO THIS SUBJECT, RAEYMAECKERS NOTED

THAT THERE EXISTED NO EC MANDATE FOR A VISIT BY EC COUNCIL
PRESIDENT TO THE US. HENCE, HE UNABLE TO MAKE ANY PREDICTION
WITH RESPECT TO FUTURE DEVELOPEMENTS ON THIS SUBJECT.)

6. FUTURE MEETPXGSKF THE NINE: THE AD HOC COMMITTEE CAND
THE POLITICAL SUBCOMMITTEE ON CSCE WILL MEET ON APRIL 12
AND 13, THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS ON MAY 25, AND MINISTERS ON
JUNE 4-5. IN ADDITION, IT WAS DECIDED TO HOLD AN EXTRAORDINARY
SESSION ON APRIL 24 DEVOTED SOLELY TO CSCE. DAVIGNON WILL CHAIR
THE SESSION AND OTHER POLITICAL DIRECTORS ARE THEREFORE EXPECTED
TO ATTEND AS WELL.

7. COMMENT: WE SUSPECT THERE MAY BE MORE TO BE LEARNED
ABOUT THE MAR. 30 MEETING. RAEYMAECKERS IS A NEW SOURCE AND
MAY EASILY HAVE WITHHELD SIGNIFICANT DETAILS. FOR INSTANCE,
ONLY AFTER PRODDING DID HE CONFIRM THAT POLITICAL DIRECTOR
HAD APPROVED THE SHORTENED DANISH MANDATE ON HUMAN CONTACTS
(HELSINKI 849). STRAUZ- HUPE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BRUSSE01811
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730431/aaaahjnl.tel
Line Count: 137
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01-Aug-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <29-Aug-2001 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971117
Subject: EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS' MEETING, MARCH 30
TAGS: PARM, PFOR, BE, EEC
To: BONN
COPENHAGEN
DUBLIN
EUR
LONDON
PARIS
ROME

SECSTATE WASHDC
THE HAGUE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005